



# Richardson Highway North Pole Interchange Project

November 2003

Department of  
Transportation &  
Public Facilities

## DOT presents concepts at Open House

The Alaska Department of Transportation (DOT) is working on the preliminary design and environmental studies for the Richardson Highway North Pole Interchange Project.

DOT in cooperation with the City of North Pole and the Fairbanks North Star Borough hosted a public open house on September 23, 2003 in the North Pole City Council Chambers from 4 to 7 p.m.

Concepts presented were part of the 1998 North Pole Interchange Recon-

naissance Report. The concepts include interchange options along the Richardson Highway at the Mission Road/Fifth Avenue intersection, at Eighth Avenue, and at Dawson Road.

Possible improvements include interchanges, an overpass, frontage roads and collector roads. Copies of this report were made available at the Open House, along with large map displays.

Over 48 people attended the open house to review and comment on these

concepts. Since the meeting, DOT has received a number of comments by mail, phone, and emails. All comments have been entered into a database.

DOT will consider all comments as well as information collected from ongoing field surveys during alternatives analysis this winter.

The public response on these initial concepts has been tremendous. Thanks to everyone for commenting!



## Your comments

We have received many letters, phone calls, emails or comment sheets from the public. Here are some comments received so far:

- One letter from the Saint Nicholas Catholic Church includes 138

signatures and expresses concerns about impacts with the Eighth Avenue concept.

- Develop a connection between Mission Rd and Badger Road.
- Improve Dawson intersection by extending Dawson to Laurance Road.

- Many express concerns about the frontage roads and how to improve traffic flow using them
- Consider impacts to Conifer Drive if Eighth Avenue is extended.
- Use traffic lights or overpasses instead of an interchange.

## Comments (continued)

- Many express concerns that the Eighth Avenue concept would severely impact the Catholic Church and other options would affect the Lord of the Life Lutheran Church. Concerns express impacts to church services, noise, parking and future expansion needs.
- Look at how emergency vehicles, bus, and refinery traffic use or would like to use the area
- Give more thought to improvements at Laurance Road, either in

addition to or instead of an interchange at Dawson or other intersections.

- Many feel that developing an intersection at Eighth Avenue is the worst choice due to the congested residential, school and pedestrian use along this street.
- Many people express concerns about keeping right of way impacts and impacts to businesses as minimal as possible.
- Concerns are expressed that impacts to neighborhoods should be

considered when constructing improvements that would potentially reroute traffic into quiet neighborhoods.

### KEEP INVOLVED!

The next open house will present alternatives for your review and comment.

Please look for public notices early next year!

## Project contacts

If you have questions or concerns, we invite you to contact one of the following individuals by phone, fax, email, or letter:

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## North Pole Interchange Project Vicinity Map

